

The low-growing shrub is of neat growth, bearing before the leaves appear, very pretty and fragrant pink blossoms, the individual flowers somewhat resembling Lilacs, and remaining in perfection almost a month before fading. The foliage is also neat and in June and July the bright red berries ripen, making the plant very attractive both in flower and fruit. It seems to me strange that it is not more widely planted.

FAIRFIELD CENTER, MAINE.

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CLADONIA BEAUMONTII IN MASSACHUSETTS.—It has been customary to regard *Cladonia Beaumontii* (Tuck.) Wainio (the *Cladonia Santensis* b *Beaumontii* of Tuckerman)<sup>1</sup> as purely southern in distribution. It is recorded in the "Synopsis" from but two States, Alabama and North Carolina and, while this range has been somewhat extended since the publication of that work, it has not heretofore been found, so far as appears, from north of the limits given.

The plant is however, more or less common though local in Wareham, Massachusetts, where it occurs usually on sandy loam, and occasionally on decaying and decayed wood, in dry, mixed, rather open woods. Although it has not been collected outside the limits of the township of Wareham there is little doubt that it is established elsewhere in the surrounding country, especially in the wooded region adjacent to the headwaters of Buzzards Bay, and it would not be surprising, in view of its occurrence so far out of its previously recorded range, to have it found in other northern localities, particularly along the coastal belt.

It was first collected by the writer in 1918 but it was not until some two years later, when specimens were communicated to Mr. G. K. Merrill, that its identity was established. Since then material has been sent to various American and European herbaria.

The collector not familiar with the species who might happen to meet with it should have no great difficulty in distinguishing it from any other *Cladonia* growing in this region. It appears to be singularly free from the polymorphism so often shown in *Cladonia* species. The fact that it does not develop cups (either open or closed) and also that the podetia are not club-shaped narrows the chances of confusion. It is perhaps somewhat similar in habit and construction

<sup>1</sup> A Synopsis of the North American Lichens. Part 1, p. 245.

to such species as *Cladonia uncialis*, *Cladonia sylvatica*, etc., but its tendency to retain or produce squamae will readily separate it from any of that group. It somewhat resembles *Cladonia turgida* in color and might also perhaps be referred carelessly to a form or phase of *Cladonia furcata*. Its more slender podetia and smaller squamules, to go no further, will separate it from the first, and its lighter color together with its more erect podetia and shorter, more truncate branches, from the last. In the event of doubt its behavior under the action of caustic potash is diagnostic, the chemical response (yellow) being immediate and pronounced. A sheet of representative Wareham material showing the primary thallus and fully developed plants in both sterile and fertile states has been deposited in the Cryptogamic Herbarium, Cambridge.—C. A. ROBBINS, Onset, Massachusetts.

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**Oenothera perennis** L. var. **rectipilis** (Blake) comb. nov.

*Oenothera pumila* var. *rectipilis* Blake, RHODORA 19: 110. 1917.

In his recent revision of *Kneiffia*, Pennell<sup>1</sup> has replaced the familiar name *Oenothera pumila* L. by the older *O. perennis* L., an equation already made in the Index Kewensis but overlooked in the preparation of all recent treatments of the northeastern flora. Dr. Pennell refers the variety above mentioned to the synonymy of *Kneiffia perennis* (L.) Pennell, and states that "the unusual state in which the pubescence is spreading may be considered a form." On the contrary, it seems to me to be altogether too striking and distinct a plant to be passed over without recognition in nomenclature. It apparently has, moreover, a definite if restricted range, being known only from the southern shore of the Baie des Chaleurs in New Brunswick and the vicinity of the Niagara River in Ontario and (?) New York.—S. F. BLAKE, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.

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ANOTHER ORCHID NEW TO NEW ENGLAND.—The publication by Mr. H. W. Child<sup>2</sup> of the discovery in Vermont by Cyrus Pringle Horsford of *Listera australis* indicates that there are still species of this much collected group to be sought in New England. It was therefore, particularly interesting, while recently inserting into the

<sup>1</sup> Child, RHODORA, xxiv. 187 (1922).

<sup>2</sup> Bull. Torrey Club 46: 372. 1919.